

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MEMORANDUM
#09-30

August 13, 2009

TO: Honorable Mayor Kathleen M. Novak and City Council Members

FROM: William Simmons, City Manager *WAS*
James Hayes, Director of Planning and Development *JH*

SUBJECT: CR-86 Northglenn Municipal V.A.L.E. Grant Acceptance

RECOMMENDATION:

Attached to this memorandum is a resolution (CR-86) which, if approved, would accept grant funds in the amount of \$8,995.00 from the Northglenn Municipal Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (V.A.L.E.) Board. Staff recommends approval of the proposed resolution.

BACKGROUND:

The Neighborhood Services Division applied for these funds to purchase equipment to advance the development and scope of the Uniting Northglenn To Abolish Graffiti (U.N.T.A.G.) program. This program was started as an education campaign and to provide assistance for victims of graffiti with V.A.L.E. grant funds in 2008.

This years grant will be used to purchase a trailer mounted pressure washer unit that will be used to remove graffiti throughout the City. A waiver will also be available for residents that want to participate in the U.N.T.A.G. Program to allow for the removal of graffiti on private property. This will reduce the amount of time graffiti is present at a property and help reduce the financial and emotional stress for the victims. Fast removal is paramount in reducing the chances of recurrence.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

The 2009 Planning and Development Budget does not include moneys for this equipment. These funds are being transferred within the 2009 General Fund Budget.

STAFF REFERENCE:

If Council members have any questions they may contact Jennifer Wing, Neighborhood Services Supervisor, at 303-280-7840 or by e-mail at jwing@northglenn.org.

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR NOVAK

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-86
Series of 2009

Series of 2009

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE GRANT AWARD FROM THE NORTHGLENN VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ("VALE") BOARD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Northglenn hereby accepts the grant award from the Northglenn VALE Board for the grant application submitted by the Northglenn Neighborhood Services Division for the following item:

\$ 8,995.00 – Trailer Mounted Power Washer

DATED, at Northglenn, Colorado, this _____ day of _____, 2009.

SHERI L. PAIZ
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

The City of Northglenn V.A.L.E. Board has awarded funds in the amount of **\$8,995.00** to the Neighborhood Services Division, for the purpose of purchasing a high pressure washer unit to remove graffiti for the U.N.T.A.G. program.

Whereas, the Neighborhood Services Division, by accepting the award of this grant, assumes distribution and reporting responsibilities of same, with the following special conditions being required of each grantee prior to allocation of these funds.

It is to facilitate the distribution of these funds and to ensure accurate reporting of each grantees disbursement of these funds that this memorandum of agreement is being executed.

Consenting Parties: Northglenn V.A.L.E. Board

and,

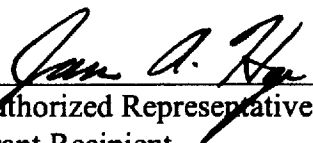
Northglenn Planning and Development

Effective Date of Agreement: Upon Signing of this Agreement
Grant Application No: 2009-4-14

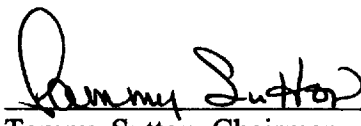
Be it Understood That:

- You are required to complete a narrative and financial report – forms and instructions attached.
- You must submit a year end written report outlining the use and application of the pressure washer

I agree to the above requirements for the purpose of accepting this Northglenn V.A.L.E. Board Grant in the amount of **\$8,995.00**.



 Authorized Representative 6/29/09
 Grant Recipient Date



 (Tammy Sutton, Chairman 6/26/09
 Northglenn V.A.L.E. Board Date

SECTION A – PROBLEM SOLVING APPROACH

The Neighborhood Service Officer Division with the City of Northglenn is requesting funding from the VALE Board for the purchase of a high pressure washer unit to remove graffiti for the U.N.T.A.G. program. Residents and businesses of the city are victimized by graffiti with little resources for assistance to help them with removal. Currently when citizens report graffiti on their property to the city's graffiti hot-line, they are essentially calling us to issue a notice for them to remove the graffiti. With current procedures we unfortunately put the burden of graffiti removal on the residents and businesses that have been victimized by the vandalism. Citizens become upset and frustrated with this situation as they believe they were calling for graffiti removal assistance. Subsequently this creates animosity between the citizens and the City of Northglenn. Even with the small graffiti kits we presently have to assist the residents, it does little to relieve the frustration they feel. Solving these issues is paramount as it has been statistically proven that the swift removal of graffiti significantly reduces the chances for re-occurrence. Often a good graffiti removal program will lead to offenders relocating out of the city. This will allow residents and businesses to feel safe and comfortable in the City of Northglenn, creating a winning situation resulting in the betterment of the city and the residents.

Having coordinated with other cities to gather information on how their graffiti removal process works, we have joined the North Metro Graffiti Task Force that links the front range of Colorado and the nation together to help combat the issues of graffiti. Assuming grant assistance is given we can offer graffiti removal services to residents for their properties and reestablish a strong positive bond between residents and the city. When graffiti is discovered at a property the NSO will attempt contact with the resident. A waiver would be signed by the citizen before the city could provide assistance. This waiver would protect the city against liability issues. The form offers the option for residents to preauthorize the city for the remove of graffiti on their properties anytime a violation exists. With the signed form in place the NSO division would then use the power washer and other appropriate means to remove the graffiti from the properties. The success of this program would be measured by a reduction in the amount of time identified graffiti is allowed to remain before removal. This program will allow graffiti to be removed immediately upon discovery when a waiver has been established at that property. The NSO will strive to have waivers signed within three days or less of the initial documentation of the case. The citizen would be an active member of the U.N.T.A.G. program until they call and ask to be removed. With this in place we would be able to expedite the removal of graffiti and keep a clean and positive image of the city. The residents would be offered assistance rather than issued a notice that would re-victimize the victim. The broken windows theory applies to these situations. It is a proven fact that if an area is allowed to become rundown and the image tarnished, crime will increase in the area. The city wants to take a zero tolerance stand on graffiti and remove it immediately thus improving the quality of life for the citizens and the aesthetics of the city.

This program we wish to initiate is similar to the proven beneficial programs other cities use to remove graffiti, enabling the city to help residents and businesses. The city would assume responsibility of graffiti removal providing the best way to control graffiti vandalism. With the help of this grant we can acquire the equipment necessary to remove graffiti from properties. We have the staff and the training already in place for such a program as multiple NSOs have CDL licenses and have been trained for the safe abatement of properties. Therefore we would not need any additional manpower or vehicles. With the current NSO staff we could expedite the response time and removal for any and all graffiti in the City of Northglenn.